GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2163
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of workers in the agriculture sector has declined during the Ninth Five Year Plan as compared to Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the percentage of the workers out of the total workers in the country engaged in agricultural sector during Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the reasons for decline in the percentage of agricultural workers during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

(a): Plan wise estimates of employment in agriculture sector are not maintained. According to the Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1999-2000, there is a decline in the percentage of workers in the agricultural sector as compared to the survey conducted in 1993-1994.

(b): According to the NSSO survey 1999-2000, out of the total employment of 39.7 crore, the employment in the agricultural sector is 23.7 crore which is about 60% of the total workforce.

(c): The reasons for decline include migration to cities for industrial jobs or casual/self-employment etc.